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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
SSM-03 MCT-01 EUR-12 ACDA-07 OMB-01 AF-10 /093 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8662
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USIA WASHDC
NSC WHITE HOUSE

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EG IS US XF
SUBJ: ARAFAT VISIT; FAHMY TO PAY "OFFICIAL VISIT" TO WASHINGTON

REFS: A. CAIRO 13965 (NOTAL), B. CAIRO 13966 (NOTAL)

1. MEDIA AUGUST 24 PLAY UP ARAFAT TALKS IN ALEXANDRIA WITH SADAT, MUBARAK AND FAHMY. ARAFAT SAID TALKS DEALT WITH MIDDLE EAST CRISIS, PALESTINIAN POSITION ON 242, AND PROSPECTS OF AMERICAN-PALESTINIAN DIALOGUE. PLO EAGER FORDIALOGUE AND HAD ATTEMPTED OPEN OFFICE IN U.S. PLO STILL AWAITING U.S. REPLY. WITH REGARD 242, ARAFAT SAID "WE ARE WAITING FOR CHANGES ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE SO THAT WE MAY BE ABLE TO GIVE OUR VIEWS MORE CLEARLY." ON ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS; "PRESIDENT CARTER STATEMENTS ARE A POSITIVE STEP."
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2. ARAFAT MET WITH MUBAREK IN COMPANY OF ABU MAZEN AND ABU TARIQ, PLO REP IN LIBYA AND TOLD PRESS HE OPTIMISTIC ON FUTURE EGYPTIAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS. PRESS REPORTS HE LEFT CAIRO AUGUST 23 FOR TWENTY-FOUR HOUR VISIT TO TRIPOLI BUT PLANS RETURN TODAY FOR FURTHER TALKS WITH FAHMY.

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3. FAHMY TO U.S. FAHMY, PRESS REPORTS, HAS RECEIVED "FORMAL INVITATION" FROM U.S. FOR "OFFICIAL VISIT" TO WASHINGTON FOR MIDDLE EAST AND BILATERAL TALKS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER SEPTEMBER 17. HE WOULD THEN PROCEED TO UNGA.

4. CARTER PRESS CONCERENCE. REPORTED LESS PROMINENTLY AND WITHOUT COMMENT WERE MIDDLE EAST PORTIONS PRESIDENT CARTER'S AUG 23 PRESS CONFERENCE. PAPERS NOTED HIS REMARKS THAT OCCUPIED TERRITORIES ARE ARAB LANDS AND THAT U.S. VIEWS ISRAELI SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY AS ILLEGAL, BUT WILL EXERT NO PRESSURE ON ISRAEL BEYOND PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN.

5. FAHMY HELD A MEETING WITH REPS OF TWENTY-SIX AFRICAN COUNTIRES AUGUST 23 TO DISCUSS OAU STANCE ON ISRAELI WEST BANK ACTIVITIES AND EGYPTIAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS. FAHMY CALLED ON AFRICANS "TO TAKEMEASURES" AGAINST ILLEGAL ISRAELI ACTIONS. SUGGESTED THEY BEWARE OF SIMILAR MOVES IN AFRICA "WHERE THERE ARE RACIST REGIMES SIMILAR TO THAT OF ISRAEL." PRESSING ON WITH HIS LATEST DIPLOMATIC OFFEN-SIVE, FAHMY PROMISES TO MEET WITH REST OF FOREIGN REPS IN CAIRO IN NEXT FEW DAYS.

6. COMMENT: EGYPTIANS WOULD PROBABLY PREFER TO OVERLOOK PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ABOUT NOT PRESSURING ISRAEL SINCE IT UNDERCUTS INTENSIVE MEDIA CAMPAIGN CALLING FOR JUST SUCH MEASURES BY ALL STATES, BUT PARTICULARLY U.S. PRESS BALLYHOO
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OF FAHMY'S IMAGINARY "FORMAL INVITATION" FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER LOOKS TO BE EFFORT TO OUTDISTANCE SYRIANS IN PEACE PROCESS SWEEPSTAKES.
EILTS

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Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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